of the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Limited, New Delhi with Canara Bank. Weighing all relevant factors, it has been decided to merge the Bank with Canara bank.

Payments of debts to NTC by NCCF

2460. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NCCF (National Consumers Cooperative Federation) and its various constituents have not been properly paying back its debts to the National Textile Corporation Limited and its various subsidiaries against the supply bills;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the total amount of outstanding dues payable by the National Consumers Cooperative Federation to National Textile Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries alongwith the details of money payable by other constituents of the National Consumers Cooperative Federation; and

(d) what action is proposed to be taken by Government to settle the matter between the two organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (c) The total outstanding dues payable by NCCF to NTC Subsidiaries against the supply of controlled cloth as on 15-7-1985, as per the account books maintained by NTC are given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

1. Basic ex-mill price (above 30 days) . .	602.45
2. Subsidy amount (withheld for period prior to 16-7-83) .	348.05
3. Interest and other amount .	116.85
TOTAL	1067.35

(d) Instructions have been issued for settling these dues immediately. Currently the reconsiliation of accounts where necessary is being carried out by the two organisations.

Mass recruitment in NTC (WBABO)

2461. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has since been made regarding the inquiry into the question of mass recruitment by the present Board of Directors of the National Textile Corporation (WBABO) Limited, Calcutta during the period from July 1984 to November, 1984;

(b) whether it is a fact that Chief Managing director and Director (Personnel) have been involved in the matter; and

(c) if so, what action is being proposed to be taken by Government to change the Board of Directors immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (c) The trainees have since been 'disengaged' and two officers have been placed under suspension. Enquiry and investigation is proceeding.

Proposal for partial closure of HSCO, Burnpur

2462. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close partially HSCO, Burnpur;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same; and

(c) the extent to which it will affect the labour force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) HSCO has been incurring heavy losses in the

last several years. Government is examining various proposals to deal with the problem of HSCO incurring heavy losses.

Handling of drills by coal division of Geological Survey of India

2463. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD. Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Drills attached and handled by Coal Division of Geological Survey of India and their State-wise development;

(b) how many Directors (Geology) connected with geological investigation for coal resources are attached to Coal Division and where they are stationed;

(c) what is the number of geological investigations being carried out by Coal Division at present; and

(d) whether it is a fact that all Directors are operating from one station; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There are 51 drills attached to the Coal Division of Geological Survey of India. Their State-wise deployment is as follows:—

Andhra Pradesh . . .	7
Arunachal Pradesh . . .	1
Assam	1
Bihar	11
Madhya Pradesh . . .	12
Maharashtra	1
Meghalaya	1
Orissa	5
Tamil Nadu	2
West Bengal . . .	10

In addition 2 drills from Western Region are deployed in Rajasthan Lignite Investigation.

(b) There are 9 Directors (Geology) connected with geological activities in Coal Wing of Geological Survey of India. The Headquarters of these Directors is at Calcutta.

(c) The Coal Wing of GSI is carrying out 53 geological investigations during the current Field Season.

(d) The Headquarter of the Directors of Coal Wing is at Calcutta. This is for the purpose of achieving close coordination with the Deputy Director General (Coal) who is stationed at Calcutta, flexible programme of exploration strategy and close interaction between all Coal Directorates and the main user agency viz., Coal India Limited.

Regularisation of contingent workers in the coal division of GSI

2464. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contingent workers appointed prior to 31st December, 1969 who are yet to be absorbed in regular posts in Coal Division of Geological Survey of India and the reasons for not regularising their services even after a period of 16 years; and

(b) the number of contingent workers regularised between 1st January, 1970 and 31st December, 1984 and their dates of appointment in contingent establishment?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There are at present 18 contingent workers in the Coal Division of the Geological Survey of India who were engaged prior to 31.12.1969 who are yet to be absorbed in regular posts. The reasons for their non-regularisation is that some of them did not accept the posts offered to them to be regularised in, while others were found unsuitable for regularisation in spite of several chances given through interviews.

(b) A total of 172 contingent workers were regularised between 1st January, 1970 and 31st December, 1984. These